IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An elastomeric composition ~~blend useful for the preparation of electric cables~~ comprising ~~one or more polymers selected from:~~

(i) a polymer ~~(Base 1)~~ obtained through shear treatment, in the presence of hydroperoxides, of a polymeric base ~~essentially~~ consisting essentially of at least one elastomeric copolymers of ethylene with propylene (EP) or EPDM terpolymers; and

(ii) ~~a copolymer of ethylene with alpha olefins, vinyl acetate or a derivative of acrylic acid (Base 2); said copolymer (ii) having a melting point lower than 115°C~~ based on 100 parts by weight (i),

from 25 to 300 parts of mineral filler selected from calcined kaolin, talc, calcium and/or magnesium carbonate, silica, magnesium and aluminum hydroxide, and mixtures thereof;

from 0 to 15 parts of plasticizer selected from mineral oil and paraffinic wax;

from 0 to 2 parts of a process coadjuvant additive selected from stearic acid and polyethylene glycol;

from 0 to 5 parts of coupling agent for mineral fillers selected from derivatives of vinyl silanes;

from 0.5 to 5 parts of antioxidant;

from 0 to 10 parts of zinc oxide or lead oxide;

from 2 to 15 parts of a of peroxide vulcanization coadjuvant selected from liquid polybutadienes, tri-allyl cyanide, N,N'-m-phenylene dimaleimide, and ethylene dimethyl acrylate; and

from 0.4 to 5 parts of an EPR crosslinking peroxide.

2. (Currently Amended) The elastomeric composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 1, ~~wherein the copolymer (ii) is~~ further comprising a copolymer of ethylene with alpha olefins having a melting point lower than 115°C.

3. (Currently Amended) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 2, wherein the alpha olefin is selected from 1-octene, 1-hexene, 1-butene, and propylene.

4. (Original) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 3, wherein the alpha olefin is propylene.

5. (Currently Amended) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 1, ~~wherein the copolymer (ii) has~~ further comprising a copolymer of ethylene with alpha olefin, vinyl acetate or a derivative of acrylic acid having a melting point lower than 100°C.

6. (Original) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 1, wherein the polymer (i) is selected from EPDM terpolymers.

7. (Original) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 1, wherein the polymer (i) is obtained by treating an EP(D)M polymer with at least one hydroperoxide at a temperature ranging from 100°C to 250°C.

8. (Original) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 7, wherein the polymer (i) is obtained by treating an EP(D)M polymer with at least one hydroperoxide at a temperature ranging from 160°C to 200°C.

9. (Original) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 1, wherein the polymer (i) has the following properties:

** Weight average molecular weight (Mw) from 70,000 to 280,000;

** Polydispersity expressed as Mw/Mn lower than 5;

** Ratio between the Melt Index fluidity at 21.6 kg and the Melt Index fluidity at 2.16 kg, both at a temperature of 230°C, ranging from 35 to 110.

10. (Original) The composition ~~blend~~ according to claim 9, wherein the polymer (i) has the following properties:

** Weight average molecular weight (Mw) from 90,000 to 160,000;

** Polydispersity expressed as Mw/Mn lower than 3.4;

** Ratio between the Melt Index fluidity at 21.6 kg and the Melt Index fluidity at 2.16 kg, both at a temperature of 230°C, ranging from 45 to 90.

11. (New) The composition according to claim 1, comprising a positive amount of plasticizer, a positive amount of the process coadjuvant additive, a positive amount of the coupling agent for mineral fillers, and a positive amount of zinc oxide or lead oxide.

12. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said blend comprises kaolin.

13. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said blend comprises paraffinic wax.

14. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said blend comprises a

positive amount of a process coadjuvant additive selected from stearic acid and polyethylene glycol.

15. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said blend comprises a positive amount of a coupling agent for mineral fillers selected from vinyl triethoxy silane and vinyl tris(beta-methoxy ethoxy)silane.

16. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said blend comprises 2,2,4-trimethyl-1,2-dihydroquinoline polymer (Anox HB).

17. (New) The composition according to claim 1, wherein said EPR crosslinking peroxide is selected from dicumyl peroxide and di(tert-butyl peroxy isopropyl) benzene.

18. (New) An insulated electric cable comprising the composition of Claim 1.

19. (New) The cable of Claim 18, wherein said cable is a medium-high tension cable.